

TOWN OF ARLINGTON

Joseph Connelly
Director of Recreation



PARK COMMISSIONERS
Jen Rothenberg, Chairperson
Shirley Canniff, Vice Chair
Leslie Mayer
Donald Vitters
Elena Bartholomew
Crissy Tarantino, Associate
Peter Hedlund, Associate

Recreation Department

Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes
Thursday, December 10, 2015
Arlington Senior Center
Approved

The Park and Recreation Commission came to order at 7:00 PM for its meeting in the Arlington Senior Center on Thursday, December 10, 2015.

Members in attendance included: Shirley Canniff, Leslie Mayer, Jen Rothenberg, Don Vitters, Elena Bartholomew, and Associate Member Crissy Tarantino. Director of Recreation, Joseph Connelly was also present.

Members from the public: Resident Mustafa Varoglu, Roly Chaput, Animal Control Office Katie Kozilowski, and representatives from Hedlund Design group were also present.

Approval of Minutes

The Commission discussed the minutes of November 4, 2015 and November 10, 2015. Mr. Connelly will amend and make changes to the minutes as proposed. The vote on both sets of minutes was tabled.

Open Forum – Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Robbins Farm Dog Statue Update – Friends of Robbins Farm Park

Mr. Chaput reviewed the history of the project with the Commission. Mr. Chaput stated the Friends of Robbins Farm Park (FORFP) have decided on a new location and have revised the existing plan and are ready to move forward. The Commission discussed the revised plan with Mr. Chaput. Mr. Connelly stated that he would like to run the plan by the IHCD for input on ADA access. The Commission discussed the benefits of including this project in with the Robbins Farm Capital project in FY 17. Mr. Chaput stated that the FORFP would like to be included in that process but did not want to wait and wanted to move forward with the installation of the dog statue.

Mr. Vitters stated that there was not enough detail to vote on the plan at this point and requested additional back-up material. The Commission asked Mr. Connelly to again try to set up a site meeting with the FORFP to look at the prospective site. Mr. Connelly stated that he would do that and then include the proposal acceptance on the January meeting's agenda. Ms. Rothenberg again stated that the Commission was in favor of the project but just wanted to make sure they came up with the right design.

422 Summer Street, Arlington, Massachusetts 02474
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The Commission thanked Mr. Chaput and all of the FORFP for their hard work on this proposal.

Meeting and Discussion with Animal Control Officer, Katie Kozilowski

Mr. Connelly introduced Animal Control Officer, Katie Kozilowski to the Commission. After introductions Ms. Kozilowski reviewed her first few months on the job. Ms. Kozilowski stated that the time for warnings is over and that tickets, even for first time violators, are being issued. The Commission stated that they were happy to assist in any way possible. Ms. Kozilowski asked for additional signage at Menotomy Rocks Park that stated "Leash Law Strictly Enforced". Mr. Connelly will work on the new signage and updating the fees for violators on the existing signs.

Mr. Connelly asked Ms. Kozilowski if she believed a task force should be created to look at the suggestions pointed out at the Menotomy public hearing. Ms. Kozilowski agreed with the Commission stating that she would prefer to see the results of aggressive enforcement first and then follow up that enforcement with a task force if necessary.

Mr. Connelly asked if the Commission could receive monthly reports on the number of tickets issued and where the violations are occurring. This will assist the Commission with continuing to monitor the program accurately.

Ms. Kozilowski will print up additional copies of the off leash brochure to hand to individuals to assist in furthering the education of park users about the program.

Magnolia Preliminary Design Review with Hedlund Design

Mr. Hedlund and his design team reviewed the three preliminary plans with the Commission. Mr. Connelly stated that the purpose of this review was to see if any problem areas could be addressed prior to next week's public meeting.

The Commission and Hedlund Design reviewed the multiple options and discussed several different features of each proposal. The Commission was very happy with elements of all three draft proposals and looked forward to the public input on them next week.

Mr. Connelly stated that his only concern was with the budgeting of each plan and explained that it should be fully noted that there is no saying that we can afford all of the items in each of these plans and the plans may have to be modified to fit the budget.

Martin Reservoir Birthday Party Request Review Feedback

The Commission reviewed the feedback from Town Counsel and the safety officer and elected to not address the issue of private permits at the Reservoir Beach at this time.

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Special Requests

There were no special requests at this time.

Capital Project and CPA Updates

ADA- Mr. Connelly stated that he talked to Berkshire Associates and that they were completing the survey work and would be ready to present ideas to the Commission after the holidays.

Spy Pond Tennis – Mr. Connelly again discussed the windscreen proposal with the Commission. Mr. Connelly stated that 106' of screen would be needed along Pond Lane. Mr. Connelly shared examples of the product with the Commission. Mr. Vitters shared an article with the Commission which stated the lack of effectiveness of windscreens for actually keeping wind off of the courts. Mr. Connelly suggested moving forward with the proposal if the donor was still interested after reviewing this article.

Ms. Mayer motioned to accept the gift of a black windscreen for Spy Pond Courts as presented in if the donor was still interested in making the donation after reviewing the article found by Mr. Vitters. The motion was seconded by Ms. Canniff and approved 5-0.

Summer Street – Mr. Connelly stated that funding was found and the study would be moving forward.

Community Preservation Act – Ms. Mayer briefly reviewed the status of the CPA process with the Commission. Ms. Mayer stated that the CPA Committee was still working on the application process but was meeting aggressively and would have a report for this Town Meeting.

Commission Topic Leader Discussion

Open Space Committee – Ms. Bartholomew stated that the Open Space Committee was working on the walking tour of Arlington and asked Mr. Connelly to see if he could have the link added to arlingtonrec.com.

Other

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 pm

Respectfully Submitted:
Joseph Connelly, Director of Recreation

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